

## **ESN3**

*The Employment Services Network was established as a resource to address the needs of those persons with mental illness wishing to make changes to their current education or employment status, and to better partner with Employers to provide support and education of services.*

*The ESN shall report outcomes to the CSN (Community Services Network) monthly.*

### **Goal:**

To increase rates of employment for people with mental illness:

- ✓ More companies educated about employing people with mental illness
- ✓ Improved strategies for helping people with mental illness find and keep employment. Improve opportunities for continued education.

## **Meeting Minutes:**

Meeting date: **March 25, 2010; 1:30p-3:30p**

Meeting location: **China Dine-ah, South China, Maine**

### **-Discussion: Member updates;**

**-Debby Maguire, HealthReach**-Jane Fisher, new ACT Team Leader to develop Vocational Program; Dan Cummings CSP to join

**-Wanita Page, DHHS**-discussion *Hatch* law, APS, General Fund and State Budget

**-Jen Raymond, Graham Behavioral**-new Satellite office in Portland, open May 1, expanding DLS and skills program

**-Lisa Woods, Career Center**-6400 persons coming off Unemployment (Augusta, Skowhegan, Lewiston), gearing up; Career Center open 7a-5p; five types of employment target, IT, Green, Transportation, Finance and HealthCare. New *Competitive Skills*, applications accepted between March 30 and April 15. See attachment.

**-Jay Carey, ESM**-working with Chellie Pingree; MH services for Veterans and Families; looking for MH Program Director, LSW, MHRTC

**-Carol Mitchell, VocRehab**-many applications, expect no! waitlist April 1 for Cat 1 persons; providing training for MH providers. One VR counselor is assigned to both Capital and High Hopes Clubhouse, Clubhouse building more TE sites. Increase technology for assistance. Career Exploration 5 day training is successful. Extra staff with 'Recovery Funds.' Eleanor Weisman replaces Louise Sidelinger. Betsy Hopkins, Bureau Director.

**-David Dubay, MMC, CWIC**-expect Grant renewal; staff remains the same, five people covering the State. WISE event in May at the Rockland Career Center.

**-Karena Aveau, Allies, Inc.**-new Program Director, Joe Haskins. Case Study. 18-25 Jail Diversion Program; seeking placement within 90 days as condition of work release.

**-Marc Rodrigue, DPN**-DPN project will end July 30; looking to continue work with Central Maine Workforce Board as Employment Specialist with active caseload. Ticket to Work Program.

**-Gwen Schottin, Peer Rep.**-actively searching employment opportunities within HealthCare Field. Job leads are shared.

**Other Discussion:**

-Hatch Law specific to State Employee involvement with Candidates for office

-NAMI Walk, May 8 in Portland (with Glenn Close)

-Consumer Council to recruit two Outreach Coordinators

-*WorkReady* Program, offered May 3 in Lewiston, WorkReady information sheet. Contact Jim Baumer for more information. There is currently a waitlist.

-Outline/Table of Contents “Draft” provided to MMC-Chapter 3

-“Calling All Crafters”, area Craft Fair scheduled for May 1, 2010, client driven, 25 crafters have committed to this event; waitlist is created

-Women, Work and Community, trainings and workshops-Presentation, April 29

**Handouts:**

-Maine’s Pardon Process

-Bradley Foundation of Me., a Call of Serenity Buddy Calling Program

-Training Opportunities:      Advanced Job Development Skills  
                                         Breakfast Series: Engaging with Employers  
                                         Job Seekers with Aspergers Syndrome..keep employment?

**Present:**

**Carol Mitchell-Cusick**, Vocational Rehabilitation, Casework Supervisor  
**David Dubay**, CWIC, Benefits Specialist, Maine Medical Center  
**Gwen Schottin**, Peer Representative  
**Wanita Page**, Consent Decree Coordinator, State of Me., Bureau of Adult MH Services  
**Debby Maguire**, ACT Team Employment Specialist, HealthReach  
**Karena Aveau**, Employment Specialist, Project with Industry, Allies, Inc.  
**Jennifer Raymond**, LSW, Program Director, Graham Behavioral Services, Inc.  
**Jay Carey**, ESM, Human Resources, Employment Services  
**Marc Rodrigue**, Disability Program Navigator, Career Center  
**Lisa Woods**, Career Center Consultant  
**Deborah Thibodeau**, Employment Specialist III, Maine Medical Center Initiative,  
Kennebec Behavioral Health (host agency)

**Absent:**

**Brian Charette**, ACT Team Employment Specialist, Riverview Psychiatric Center  
**Norman Elvin**, Owner, G & E Roofing and the China Dine-ah  
**Lisa Milne**, Peer Representative  
**Elaine Ecker**, Executive Director, Consumer Council of Maine

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***Next meeting:***  
***April 29, 2010, 1:30-3:30p***  
***Allies Inc., 150 Capital Street, Augusta***  
***Women, Work and Community, tentative***

*The goal of the ESN is to increase rates of employment for persons with mental illness. Task ahead; inventory the existing resource for Supported/Employment/Education (SEE) in each CSN. The core members of the ESN will invite and expand membership to those SEE providers whose population served represents at least 30% of individuals with mental illness. With this expansion, we can expect to make operational a way to serve the increased numbers of clients who indicate a strong or urgent desire to become employed or attend school.*

Respectfully submitted;  
Deborah Thibodeau, Employment Specialist III  
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(host agency, Kennebec Behavioral Health)  
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